

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095656

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ORIGIN EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 H-01 PM-03 L-01 INR-05 A-01

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DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:BLEVIN:BDS

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H - SJDSCHWARTZSTEIN

EA - MR. GLEYSTEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, TW, US

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY RE WORLD FREEDOM DAY

REF: TAIPEI 2461

1. AS RESULT CONSULTATIONS WITH H, WE WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR REPLACING PARAS B AND C OF PROPOSED REPLY TO
CONGRESSMAN MCDONALD (REFTEL) WITH THE FOLLOWING:
BEGIN TEXT:

A. LOCAL US MILITARY AUTHORITIES DISCOURAGED OFFICIAL
ATTENDANCE BY US MILITARY PERSONNEL AT THE WORLD FREEDOM
DAY RALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING EMBASSY GUIDANCE.
SUCH GUIDANCE IS BASED ON A DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRU-
TION OF SEVERAL YEARS STANDING ON OFFICIAL US ATTENDANCE
AT CERTAIN TYPES OF POLITICAL RALLIES HELD IN TAIPEI.

B. THE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTION WAS PROMPTED BY A
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PAGE 02 STATE 095656

SERIES OF ATTACKS IN RECENT YEARS ON US POLICIES AND

LEADERS AT SIMILAR RALLIES AND IN PUBLICATIONS
SPONSORED BY THE ORGANIZERS OF WORLD FREEDOM DAY. IT IS
BASED ON THE GENERAL BELIEF THAT THE INTERESTS AND
PRESTIGE OF THE UNITED STATES ARE NOT SERVED BY THE
PRESENCE IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY OF USG EMPLOYEES
RESIDING ABROAD AT RALLIES LIKELY TO FEATURE OFFENSIVE

OR EMBARRASSING ATTACKS ON OUR NATION BY FOREIGN
NATIONALS. ON THE BASIS OF THE PAST RECORD OF ITS
SPONSORS, THE WORLD FREEDOM DAY RALLY WAS JUDGED TO
BE IN THIS CATEGORY. I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT WE
HAVE NOT PRESUMED TO ADVISE US CITIZENS REGARDING ATTEN-
DANCE AT SUCH RALLIES IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY. END TEXT.

2. ADDITIONALLY, AS WE DO NOT WISH TO ENCOURAGE
FRUITLESS EXCHANGE, PLEASE DROP LAST SENTENCE YOUR
PROPOSED REPLY SUGGESTING CONGRESSMAN CONTACT DEPT.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

3. FYI. WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT YOUR PROPOSED
ENCLOSURES WILL NOT HAVE DESIRED IMPACT ON CONGRESS-
MAN AND THEREFORE ADVISE THAT THEY BE DROPPED.

ROBINSON

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